

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 PA-02 SIL-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 FMC-02 DOTE-00

L-03 FAA-00 TAR-01 SP-02 STR-04 IGA-01 TRSE-00 /073 W

----- 091608

R 071127Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3659

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 2145

BEIRUT FOR RTDO

USDOC FOR CAGNE

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, SY

SUBJECT: DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL FAIR

REF: A. DAMASCUS 2092; B. ATHENS 4188; C. DAMASCUS 1863

1. WE HAVE REPEATED REFTELS (A) AND (C) TO JOHN DEERE
BRUSSELS HEADQUARTERS, AS SUGGESTED REFERENCE (B).
BOTH INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT WILL BE
WELCOMED IN DAMASCUS FAIR.

2. CONGESTED PORT AND POLITICAL UNCERTAINTIES PERSENT
DIFFICULTIES FOR TRANSPORTING EQUIPMENT VIA BEIRUT. FAIR
AUTHORITIES RECOMMEND USE OF SYRIAN PORTS, WHERE THEY MAY BE ABLE
TO EXPEDITE GOODS CONSIGNED TO FAIR, AIR SHIPMENT
DIRECTLY TO DAMASCUS (WHEN FEASABLE) AND TRUCK OR
RAIL TRANSPORT FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT FROM WESTERN
EUROPE.

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3. FAIR-CONSIGNED EQUIPMENT MAY BE SOLD IN SYRIA AFTER
PAYMENT OF DUTIES; UNSOLD EQUIPMENT MUST BE RE-EXPORTED.

4. WE WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE ONCE AGAIN THE IMPORTANCE
OF A FULL AND DIVERSIFIED AMERICAN PARTICIPATION
IN THE DAMASCUS FAIR AS PART OF OUR EFFORTS TO
REINFORCE COMMERCIAL AND POLITICAL TIES TO SYRIA.
WE BELIEVE DEERE CAN MAKE A MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION
TO THIS OBJECTIVE AND AT THE SAME TIME EXPAND ITS
SALES IN THE GROWING SYRIAN AND LARGER ARAB MARKETS.
WE ALSO WISH TO EMPHASIZE WE NOW HAVE UP TO \$30
MILLION IN U.S. OFFICIAL AID TO SYRIA DESTINED FOR
FINANCING OF EQUIPMENT IMPORTS MAINLY IN LINES PRODUCED
BY DEERE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO DEERE'S RESPONSE AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE.
PELLETREAU

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NNN

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